09/445604

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Docket No.: 515-4181

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

For: BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL COMPRISING AN EFFICACIOUS CELL CULTURE OF A BIOCOMPATIBLE AND BIODEGRADABLE THREE-DIMENSIONAL MATRIX CONSISTING OF A HYALURONIC ACID DERIVATIVE

New York, NY 10036 December 7, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed prior to examination to revise the claims to reduce the filing fee. Kindly amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claims 1-27 and add the following claims:

--29. A biological material comprising;

a) at least one cell type selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa, germinative cells of hair bulbs; and

b) a biocompatible and biodegradable three-dimensional matrix comprising at least one byaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of:

A) an ester of

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